



TOWN OF WESTFORD  
OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS  
55 Main Street  
WESTFORD, MA 01886  
(978) 692-5504 FAX (978) 399-2556

## **Community Preservation Act M.G.L. Chapter 44B**

Applications for Real Estate Exemptions are available the 1st week of October and are due April 1<sup>st</sup>. As a courtesy, the Assessor's office mails applications to residents who have applied in previous years. However, it is your responsibility to obtain and submit applications in a timely manner.

The Town of Westford adopted the Community Preservation Act (CPA) at annual town election in May 2001. This law allows the town to place a 3% surcharge of real estate taxes on the tax bills beginning in FY 2002. The surcharge will pay for affordable housing, historic resources and acquisition of conservation land. The town also adopted three (3) exemptions to the law:

1. All residential parcels are exempt the first \$100,000 of assessed value before the 3% surcharge is applied. This is done automatically. (Example: Assessed value is \$250,000. The 3% surcharge is applied to the taxes generated from the \$150,000 of assessed value:  $\$150,000 \times 13.68$  (tax rate) =  $\$2,100 \times 3\%$  (surcharge) =  $\$63.00$  CPA tax).
2. Households with an owner 60 years of age and older that qualify as moderate or low income may qualify for a total exemption.
3. Non-Senior households with an owner who qualify as low income may qualify for a total exemption.

**SIGNED** copies of previous calendar year Federal Income Tax filings for ALL household members must accompany your application. Tax filings which have been altered and incomplete applications will not be accepted for processing.

If you **DO NOT** file Federal Income taxes, a copy of your Social Security, Pension/Retirement statement and any other income statements will be required to verify annual income. In addition, you must sign an affidavit, available at the Assessors Office.

Granted exemptions will be applied to your 4th Quarter (April) tax bill.

If you need help completing your application, please contact the Assessors Office for assistance.